

above, with black cross-bars; on the anterior part of the body these bars are as broad as the interspaces between them, while further back they become narrower; some of them are broken on the vertebral line, the two halves alternating; anterior part of head, parietal shields, and lips black; belly yellowish, with a series of large black spots on each side, alternating with the black cross-bars of the upper surface; lower surface of tail mottled with black.

Total length 390 millim.; tail 72.

A single female specimen from the Marcapata Valley, E. Peru, collected by Mr. Ockenden.

Elaps regularis.

Eye slightly shorter than its distance from the mouth. Rostral large, broader than deep, the portion visible from above measuring one third its distance from the frontal; latter a little broader than the supraocular, once and one third as long as broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, a little shorter than the parietals, the length of which equals their distance from the internasals; one præ- and one postocular; temporals 1+1; seven upper labials, third, fourth, and fifth entering the eye; four lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are slightly shorter than the posterior. Scales in fifteen rows. Ventrals 214; anal divided; subcaudals 26, the first six single. 39 black annuli disposed with great regularity and as broad as or a little narrower than the interspaces, the scales on which are red with dark brown tips; the first annulus begins immediately behind the parietal shields, which, together with the temporals and the sixth upper labial, are yellow, the rest of the head being black.

Total length 315 millim.; tail 24.

A single specimen from Chulumani, Bolivia, 2000 m., collected by P. O. Simons.

LV.—On the Genus *Ateleopus* of Schlegel.

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

I HAVE already pointed out in these 'Annals' * that the name *Ateleopus*, Schlegel, 1846, for a genus of deep-sea fish from Japan, to which a species from the Indian seas has recently been added, is preoccupied by *Atelopus*, Duméril and Bibron,

* Ser. 6, vol. xiv. 1894, p. 374.

1841, a Batrachian genus from South America. I now propose to change the name of the fish to *Podateles* and the family name Ateleopodidæ of Günther to Podatelidæ.

The family Ateleopodidæ has hitherto been placed near the Macruridæ; but it differs from them, and is more nearly related to the Blenniidæ, in having the scapular foramen pierced in the scapular bone, which does not support any of the pectoral rays. It is distinguished from both the Macruridæ and the Blenniidæ in having the supratemporal bone loosely attached by ligament to the skull and the pectoral rays inserted on an undivided cartilaginous plate instead of a series of pterygial bones or basalia.

If, following Gill and other American writers, we attach importance to the structure of the pectoral arch in the classification of the jugular fishes, the Lycodidæ and Ophidiidæ should be placed, with the Zoarcidæ, nearer to the Blennies than to the Gadoids. The point in question had never been ascertained on the Ateleopodidæ, which must now be removed from the immediate vicinity of the Gadoids, and included in the series Blenniidæ—Ophidiidæ.

LVI.—*A new Rhynchocyon from Nyasaland.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

Rhynchocyon Hendersoni, sp. n.

A member of the *R. Cirnei-Reichardti* group.

General body-colour grizzled dusky grey, much darker than in *R. Cirnei* and *Reichardti*. On each side of the posterior back two deep black stripes, and below them a third indistinct rufous one; in the hollows of the upper stripe four, of the middle six, and of the lower four indistinct whitish spots, much less conspicuous than in *R. Reichardti*. Head dark, grizzled blackish. Ears dark fulvous, edged with black. Under surface dusky, darker than in the other species, the hairs tipped with buffy. Forearms and thighs dark grizzled fulvous; hands and feet black, the ankles grizzled with fulvous. Tail black, with a white subterminal ring; the underside of its basal two inches fulvous.

Dimensions of the type (measured in skin):—

Head and body 250 millim.; tail 214; hind foot (s. u.) (wet) 67; ear (wet) 27.

Hab. Plateau west of Lake Nyasa.